



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

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***TOM GROSSMANN
SHANNON JONES
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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WARREN COUNTY, OHIO**

MINUTES: Regular Session – July 6, 2021

The Board met in regular session pursuant to adjournment of the June 29, 2021 meeting.

David G. Young – present

Shannon Jones – present

Tom Grossmann – present

Tina Osborne, Clerk – present

- 21-0906 A resolution was adopted to approve promotion of Andrew Napier to the position of Water Distribution Worker III within the Water and Sewer Department.
Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0907 A resolution was adopted to approve pay increase for Doug Ingram, Water Distribution Worker III, within the Water and Sewer Department.
Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0908 A resolution was adopted to hire Sydney Renner as LEPC/ Grans Coordinator, within the Warren County Emergency Services Department. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0909 A resolution was adopted to authorize the posting of the “Temporary EMA Emergency Plans Assistant” position within the Emergency Services Department, in accordance with Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, section 2.02 (A).
Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0910 A resolution was adopted to hire Jennifer Powell as an Eligibility Referral Specialist I, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Human Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0911 A resolution was adopted to hire Natalie Brown as Protective Services Caseworker I, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous

- 21-0912 A resolution was adopted to hire Renee Hathaway as Protective Services Caseworker III, within the Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0913 A resolution was adopted to authorize the posting of the “Clerical Specialist I/ Scanner” within the Department of Job and Family Services, Children Services Division, in accordance with the Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, section 2.02 (A). Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0914 A resolution was adopted to accept resignation of Nathan Shutts, Water Distribution Worker I, within the Warren County Water and Sewer Department, effective July 9, 2021. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0915 A resolution was adopted to authorize the posting of the “Water Distribution Worker I or II” position, within the Water and Sewer Department, in accordance with Warren County Personnel Policy Manual, section 2.02 (A).
Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0916 A resolution was adopted to approve promotion of Michael Gladwell from Building and Electrical Inspector I to Building and Electrical Inspector II within the Building and Zoning Department. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0917 A resolution was adopted to hire Lisa Lobe as Cashier Receptionist, within the Building and Zoning Department. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0918 A resolution was adopted to cancel regularly scheduled Commissioners’ Meeting of Thursday, July 8, 2021. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0919 A resolution was adopted to authorize Request for Proposals for securing a source of electric generation for Warren County facilities. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0920 A resolution was adopted to authorize President of the Board to sign permit application from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control for a fundraising event at the Warren County Fairgrounds. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0921 A resolution was adopted to authorize the President of the Board to enter into Agreement for Disbursement of Grant Funds with Mental Health Recovery Services of Warren and Clinton Counties, on behalf of Warren County.
Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0922 A resolution was adopted to approve and authorize the President of the Board to enter into Classroom Training Agreement on behalf of OhioMeansJobs Warren County. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0923 A resolution was adopted to approve and authorize President of the Board to enter into a Youth Worksite Agreement on behalf of OhioMeansJobs Warren County. Vote: Unanimous

- 21-0924 A resolution was adopted to authorize Director of Warren County Children Services to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Warren County Children Services and the Social Work Program of Indiana Wesleyan University. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0925 A resolution was adopted to approve Change Order No. 2 to the contract with Peterson Construction Company for the Franklin Area Water Treatment Plant Membrane Softening Upgrades Project. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0926 A resolution was adopted to authorize acceptance of renewal quote from Business Communications Specialists on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications for support renewal for extreme equipment. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0927 A resolution was adopted to approve amendment #4 to the agreement with Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC for inmate calling services within the Warren County Jail on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0928 A resolution was adopted to approve Master Monitoring Agreement with Flash Technology on behalf of Warren County Telecommunications. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0929 A resolution was adopted to approve emergency installation and tower light for Washington Township Tower Site. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0930 A resolution was adopted to authorize President of the Board of County Commissioners to sign Internal Revenue Service (IRS) form 720 relative to Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI). Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0931 A resolution was adopted to acknowledge payment of bills. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0932 A resolution was adopted to approve a subdivision public improvement performance and maintenance security release with Fischer Development Company for Providence, Section Six situated in Hamilton Township. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0933 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment from Commissioners General Fund #11011110 into Economic Development Fund #11011116. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0934 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment from Commissioners General Fund #11011110 into Juvenile Probation Fund #11012500. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0935 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within Children Services Fund #2273. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0936 A resolution was adopted to approve appropriation adjustment within Facilities Management Fund #4467. Vote: Unanimous

- 21-0937 A resolution was adopted to approve requisitions and authorize County Administrator to sign documents relative thereto. Vote: Unanimous
- 21-0938 A resolution was adopted to approve and authorize the President of the Board to enter into Loan Agreement with Billie Birchfield relative to the Warren County Home Repair/ Rehab Program. Vote: Unanimous

DISCUSSIONS

On motion, upon unanimous call of the roll, the Board accepted and approved the consent agenda.

Susanne Mason, Office of Grant Administration Grant Manager, was present for a follow-up work session regarding proposed projects relative to the additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding recently made available.

Mrs. Mason reviewed the proposed projects in the list attached and stated that representatives from the City of Franklin are in the audience as well as representatives from a few of the agencies in order to answer any questions the Board may have.

Jonathan Westendorf, Franklin City Manager, provided background information on the broadband project that the city is proposing. He stated that the City of Franklin is taking a new "head on" approach in addressing issues within the city to stabilize the neighborhood. He discussed the higher drug related problems within their city and the fact that Franklin is ranked #42 in Ohio as it related to drugs. He discussed the number of students with no access to internet within the Franklin School District. He then reviewed their proposed project to provide 23 Wi-Fi access points within the area to allow the residents the ability to do various things such as apply for jobs, access remote health care and complete homework assignments.

Commissioner Jones questioned the amount of funding that would be required in order to make this project a reality.

Mr. Westendorf stated that 75% of their request would be needed as that is the capital portion, with the remaining 25% being the operational cost.

Commissioner Young stated he will do everything in his power to get people from welfare to work. He then discussed the serious drug problems that need to be address.

Commissioner Jones stated her opinion that the purpose of CDBG funding is used to help non-project and government to build up infrastructure they would not otherwise be able to afford. She then stated her concerns with the loss of funding for the Child Advocacy Center and the Abuse and Rape Crisis Shelter.

There was discussion relative to the ability to fund the childcare project and the broadband project through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding as those have been deemed eligible expenditures. The Board stated their desire to fund these projects through ARPA.

Upon discussion, it as determined with the ARPA eligible projects removed, there would only be an \$87,000 deficit to fund all the other requests.

Upon further discussion, the Board determined to reduce the requested amounts a certain percentage to fund all other requests.

Sheriff Larry Sims was present to discuss their request for the purchase of a new SWAT vehicle.

Sheriff Sims reviewed the attached PowerPoint presentation and provided background information relative to the purchase of the previous vehicle through a Homeland Security grant which is no longer available for that purpose. He stated they are in desperate need of the replacement vehicle and requested the Board consider funding the purchase of a G3 Lenco Bearcat at the cost of approximately \$300,000.

Upon discussion, the Board stated their trust in the Sheriff in determining the needs of the department and stated their agreement to fund the purchase.

Sheriff Sims provided an update on the New Warren County Jail and Sheriff's Office project timeline for completion and move-in.

The Board discussed the legislation, that has ended, which permitted virtual meetings and how they desire to proceed in the future.

There was discussion relative to the available technology and the desire to provide the public with access to meetings.

There was discussion relative to the legality of allowing public comment during the hearing process as well as the ability to comment outside of a hearing.

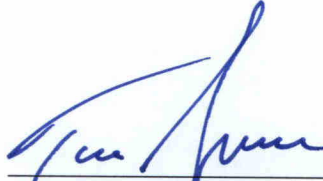
Upon further discussion, the Board determined to live stream their public meetings through a YouTube channel.

Upon motion the meeting was adjourned.

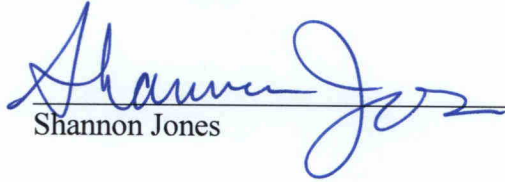
David G. Young, President



Tom Grossmann



Shannon Jones



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners held on July 6, 2021, in compliance with Section 121.29 O.R.C.

Tina Osborne, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Warren County, Ohio



CDBG Covid Fund Summary 2021

The US Department of HUD has allocated funds to Warren County. Funds must be used to address a Covid-related need and must benefit low-to-moderate income households.

Total Funding: \$794,856

1 Shared Harvest - Food Bank Distribution **\$ 268,300.00**

On March 16, 2020, Shared Harvest Foodbank activated an emergency response plan to address the increased need for food assistance due to the economic impact of COVID-19. Since then, our network of 102 food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters throughout our five-county service area has served more than 200,118 families which is nearly double those aided in the prior year. We are requesting \$268,300 to assist us with the increased cost of procuring, storing, and distributing food through our Warren County partner agencies to people in need. Warren County comprises 12% of the total people served through our overall network. This request is specifically for COVID-19 related emergency food needs of our Warren County neighbors, which represents 12% of our total increased cost. There are 17 locations in Warren County that receive assistance from Shared Harvest:

- 3 in South Lebanon
- 1 in Franklin
- 6 in Lebanon
- 1 in Morrow
- 3 in Mason
- 1 in Springboro
- 1 in Centerville
- 1 in Maineville

2 Lebanon Food Pantry - Refrigerator **\$ 25,000.00**

The Pantry purchased a used cargo van to allow for more efficient rescue of food items and added weekly pick up from Shared Harvest of nutritious refrigerated items. In partnership with Shared Harvest, the Pantry began monthly contact-free distribution at the Warren County Fairgrounds. In December the distribution served 401 households and 1,510 people. Distribution has continued once each month throughout 2021. The Pantry partnered with Joshua's Place, Neighborhood Bridges, the Rotary and Kiwanis to give additional help to families during the holidays. More than 152,000 pounds of food was distributed to 3,722 families during 152 service days in 2020. This impact means 12,635 people received 127,329 free nutritious meals. A grant would enable the pantry to increase refrigeration capacity in order to purchase, receive and rescue even more fresh food. It would also enable the pantry to continue to serve all eligible customers in Warren County.

3 Family Promise of Warren County (FKA Interfaith Hospitality Network) - Capital **\$ 300,000.00**

Family Promise of Warren County Board of Directors set forth a strategic vision to include our capacity to address the growing family homelessness in Warren County. In 2020 the agency housed 43 families and took 1189 referrals from homeless or at-risk persons. The first quarter of 2021 shows a 53% increase in referrals since the same period last year. Our network of congregations still prepares meals and assistance, but with many being unvaccinated, we have had to use motels for housing families, which is not a long-term solution. The vision is to establish a static site that includes our offices, day center for the families, and evening/overnight facilities. This new site would enable us to engage additional support groups including new churches, civic groups, and Warren County businesses as well as daily/weekly. Mostly, this new site in conjunction with the current network will provide a program of constants and wrap around services as we continue to serve families that are in crisis. We seek to stay in Lebanon to be close to adjacent agencies and government offices. Currently, an offer has been placed on a building.

4 Family Promise of Warren County (FKA Interfaith Hospitality Network) - Operating \$ 25,000.00

We have and will continue to have additional expenses that are directly related to COVID. The motel that we use has a rate of \$250.00 per week. Rarely are persons in this population vaccinated and by keeping them socially distanced we can prevent the spread of COVID. Then there is the continued expense of providing our families with personal protection items such as sanitizer, air purifiers, masks, Lysol and cleaning supplies.

5 Meals on Wheels - Parking Lot \$ 70,000.00

Meals on Wheels serves homebound senior adults unable to cook for themselves. Since the onset of the pandemic, Meals on Wheels service has increased by 30%. In 2020, the agency served 300,000 meals to over 1,200 clients. Their facility, based in Middletown is in need of a new parking lot to accommodate the increase. The lot will be used by employees and drivers serving/transporting meals.

6 Child Advocacy Center of Warren County - Operating \$ 118,000.00

The Child Advocacy Center of Warren County (CACWC) provides specialized services to child victims of abuse and neglect and their non-offending caregivers. Many of these children are victims of sexual and physical abuse, neglect, and witness to violence cases and drug crimes. In 2020, we provided services to a total of 280 children, but under non-pandemic circumstances, we served 350 children in 2019 and 341 in 2018. Due to the pandemic, the CACWC was not able to host their annual fundraising event. Additionally, their annual VOCA funding has been cut, leaving the agency in need of funds to continue its vital work. In hopes of participating in this program, the CACWC surveyed clients, and results show that 75% are low-to-moderate income, qualifying them for this funding program.

7 ARCS - General Operating & Van \$ 75,000.00

Beginning in April-December 2020, the number of clients the Abuse and Rape Crises Shelter served increased by 30% compared to pre-COVID. In 2020 we served 2361 individuals through Shelter Services, Legal Advocacy, Support Group, Individual Therapy, and Crisis Line Response. This is compared to 1642 total served in 2019. We continue to see an incline in 2021 with the number of domestic violence survivors we are serving. Loss of employment, isolation, increased medical bills, and abusive spouses withholding financial resources such as stimulus checks and child support are COVID adversities contributing to an increase in family violence. A specific need ARCS currently has is the need for a new shelter van. When clients were unable to get to us due to COVID restrictions, we took resources, support and services to families throughout the County. Through this process we put many additional miles on our agency vehicle that was already showing signs of needed repairs and additional maintenance. Month after month we hope and pray that our van will hold on, but we are now at a place that it is no longer dependable. In the past ARCS was able to purchase transportation vehicles through VOCA funding. Unfortunately, the federal government will no longer allow their funds to be used for vehicles. This is compounded by a 38% decrease in funding ARCS now receives from VOCA, a source of revenue that has historically been dependable and sustainable. Transportation is an essential and necessary service of ARCS and we are asking for the Warren County Commissioner's to consider using COVID related revenue to assist us in the purchase of a dependable \$34,000 van.

8 City of Franklin - Broadband

\$ 305,000.00

The City of Franklin is actively developing a plan that offers broadband Wi-Fi access to our downtown and community park neighborhoods. By working with Cincinnati Bell Business, Franklin desires to install 23 access points between East 2nd Street as the northern limit and West 6th Street to the south, extending from River Street on the westside to Riley Boulevard on the east. Research shows that this project would improve the City's economic outcomes by helping job seekers find employment, support wellness through social interaction and improve civic engagement. Additionally, this project would link individuals to health treatment programs and telehealth services for those lacking transportation and the disabled. Data regarding Franklin School is attached.

9 Child Care Assistance

Up to \$794,856

Currently, there is a pocket of residents who do not qualify for WC JFS childcare programs because they earn more than the stringent limits set by the state. We propose developing a program for working families that do not qualify for traditional programs but are still considered low/moderate income. The program would work closely with both families and licensed daycare facilities to offer assistance to those most affected by the pandemic. Qualifying families in arrearages will be served first. The program would work similarly to the Warren County's new Rental Assistance Program, using the same software and personnel to oversee the program.

Additionally, we are seeking funds to hire a recruiter to train persons wishing to become licensed in-home service providers. This recruiter would be responsible for technical assistance, teaching business skills, and walking them through the process of becoming a licensed provider. This could be accomplished through a contracted partnership with 4C for Children to provide quality, trained recruiters.

ARPA\$

Franklin Schools

School	No Internet	Total Students who live near the school	Percentages	Note
AW	132	208	63.46%	Elementary
FJHS	25	91	27.47%	Students included their phones as Internet connected devices.
FHS	118	184	64.13%	Students did NOT include their phone as an Internet connected device.
Averages (AW Area)			51.69%	

Warren County Tactical Response Unit



Armored Vehicle Replacement

Current WCTRU staffing:

26 Tactical Team Members

4 Crisis Negotiators

4 Tactical Dispatchers

1 Medical Physician

4 Paramedics

8 Law Enforcement Agencies contribute members

3 Fire Agencies contribute Paramedics

Current Team Vehicles



Guardsman

RDV



Balkan



Current Team Vehicles

- 2007 F550 (Balkan)
 - Primary rescue vehicle
 - Transport vehicle for team members
 - Fully armored
- 1999 GMC C6500 (Guardzman)
 - Transport vehicle for team members
 - Partially armored
- 2013 Ford E450 (RDV)
 - Command Unit
 - Transport vehicle for team members and equipment

Guardzman

- 1999 GMC C6500
- Standard Shift
- Caterpillar Motor
- Originally designed as a “Coin Truck”
- Repurposed by Armet Armor Company
- Failed to meet specifications for the purchasing agency
- Offered to Warren County in 2007 as part of the purchase, for the Balkan

Guardisman Limitations

- No off-road capability
- Age of the vehicle
- Manual transmission
- No armor protection in the drivers compartment
- Limited transport capacity (8 members total)
- No climate controls in troop compartment
- No run flat tires
- Increased maintenance cost and reliability issues to include the need of a tow trucks.
- Warren County Garage has no other engine/transmission like it in service

Vehicle History of the WCTRU

- Prior to 1998 WCTRU used unmarked Crown Victoria's for their team vehicles
- In 1998, the Crown Victoria's were replaced with a 1979 ambulance
- In 2001, the team was given a second ambulance due to increased size of the team
- In 2006 WCTRU was involved in a shootout on Foster Maineville Road.
- The after action investigation of the incident showed a need for armored vehicles within Warren County.
- In 2006 we secured a DHS grant for 2 armored vehicles from Armet Armor in Canada. (Balkan and Guardsman)
- In 2013 we received a grant to purchase a mobile command unit/equipment vehicle. (RDV)
- In 2018, due to increased maintenance cost, reliability issues, and life expectancy we started looking for a replacement for the Guardsman.
- We have applied for multiple grants and explored every avenue to replace the Guardsman.

Armored Vehicle Operations

The lessons we have learned from the hundreds of operations performed over the last 20 years:

- On numerous occasions we have served simultaneous search warrants at different addresses utilizing both armored vehicles.
- On multiple occasions we have found ourselves without protective cover. In those instances we bring our cover with us, in the form of armored vehicles
- During the COVID Pandemic, we were able to split the team into two operational units.
- In the past we have been asked to assist with Preble County Sheriff's Office, Wilmington Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Office, Ohio State Patrol, Middletown Police Department, FBI, Secret Service, and the US Marshals Office because of our current armored vehicle capabilities.

Here is a brief look into our missions over the last several years.

DATE	LOCATION	REASON	WEAPON INVOLVED	RESULTS
7/6/2019	1031 Stratford Pl. Mason, OH	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
10/22/2019	35 Revis Rd. South Lebanon, OH	Search Warrant	YES	Mission Completed
11/8/2019	4322 Queen Ave, Franklin	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
12/7/2019	Lebanon Horse Parade	Site Security	NO	Mission Completed
2/3/2020	3405 Lynn Dr in Franklin Township	Search Warrant	YES	Suspect Arrested
4/21/2020	4087 Pimlico Ct. Mason	Search Warrant	YES	Mission Completed
8/7/2020	621 Beam Dr. Franklin	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
8/10/2020	423 Forest Av Franklin	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
8/19/2020	9741 Whipoorwill Ln. Mason	Search Warrant	YES	Suspect Arrested

Here is a brief look into our missions over the last several years. (CONT.)

DATE	LOCATION	REASON	WEAPONS INVOLVED ?	RESULTS
9/11/2020	573 Valley Forge Ct Franklin	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
9/25/2020	Hamilton-Township	Site Security	NO	Mission Completed
9/28/2020	21 High Street Franklin	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
11/10/2020	3763 Lost Willow Dr. Mason	Search Warrant	YES	Mission Completed
12/11/2020	8853 Rockland Ct. Springboro	Search Warrant	YES	Mission Completed
5/12/2021	2727 Audubon Apt. D in Turtle Creek Twp, Lebanon	Barricaded Male	YES	Suspect Arrested
5/18/2021	7973 Mulberry St. Maineville	Barricaded Male	UNK	Suspect Arrested
5/25/2021	7891 Yellowwood Dr./4031 Walton Ridge Ct. Mason	Search Warrant X2	YES	Mission Completed
6/18/2021	236 Cincinnati Av Apt. A Lebanon	Arrest Warrant	YES	Suspect Arrested

G3 Lenco Bearcat



Bearcat

- Built by Lenco Industries, in Pittsfield Massachusetts
- #1 manufacturer of Law Enforcement armored vehicles in the U.S.
- Lenco vehicles currently serve 8 surrounding jurisdictions
- Purpose built for Law Enforcement

Bearcat

- 4X4 off-road capability
- 360 degree armor protection
- Ability to transport 12 team members in full tactical gear
- Its current Ford F550 chassis and drive train are supported by the Warren County Garage
- Automatic Transmission
- Climate control in all areas of the vehicle
- 3 year 30,000 mile warranty from Ford Motor Company
- 3 year 30,000 mile warranty from Lenco
- 5 year 60,000 mile warranty for engine and drive train